AT BAR HARBOR.

[New York Commercial Advertiser.]
"There! That's Mrs. Guardian with bull's eyes!"
"Molly!"

"Her dark lantern, I mean. It's perfectly true. Ask—oh, ask anybody. Every one in Mt. Desert knows her. She's our chief of

police."
"Molly sgain! What heedless talk!"
"My dear, it's talk I might shout from the housetops and no harm done. It has not even the merit of being original. It is three -four-how many years old? And I say it boldly, Mrs. Guardian and ber dark lautern

which she uses."

"To keep the peace, let us hope," said a masculine voice, speaking for the first time.

"Albert, you are a traitor, helping Hilary along in this way! As if you didn't know as well as another just what use was made of that dark lantern. I suspect it's been turned on you pretty lately, too; yes, and on Miss Hilary here, for all her sense of propriety. The old lady saw you both, I make no doubt, when you were engaged last night in the time-honored occupation of stealing from Rodick's kitchen. I wonder, by the way, how she liked Hilary's style of eating."

From this bit of talk it may be gathered by the initiated that Hilary was new to Bar

by the initiated that Hilary was new to Bar Harbor ways, and that Molly, an old-timer, was trying to give her points, as the vulgar

was trying to give her points, as the vulgar say.

Albert was Molly's brother. Hilary, her best friend, and Albert's supposed "best girl," arrived the day before. Whose best girl would she be after another twenty-four hours of Bar Harbor? Chien sabe?

The tall young man in knickerbockers sitting near, with his profile turned toward them, had a suspicion that if energy counted with a girl like that, energy she should have in the person of Wildo Taylor. For Hilary was a sunner to look at and no mistake. Tall, you know, lithe, with slight firm feet and a fine gait, a skin that takes a good brown, a mouth that smiles well and opens handsomely, eyes that are becoming to mocnlight, hair that likes the ocean waves the better the more the wind blows! Then her hands were the most delightful Then her hands were the most delightful hands—hands long and skillful to grasp a paddle or a bridle, or play with an open book or fan, or to gather sea anemones down on the rocks. A girl, in fact, built for Mt. Desert, born and bred for the place, was Wildo Taylor's inward comment.

Wildo Taylor's inward comment.

As for Albert Henry, he was so temporarily gone that he was alive only to the girl's presence. Ostensibly he was reading yester-day's paper, for the boat was not yet in, but the tiny black letters fluttered before his syes like hieroglyphics. Everything fluttered before his eyes in a puzzling fashion, the gay passing crowd looked like the bright bits in a kaleidoscope, and only one figure stood fairly outlined to his gaze. Out of the sort of talk—you may remember it?—and confusion of his thoughts he was forming a resolution—the important resolution to get Hilary in his cance that evening before Molly had dragged her off to the Gray's for

crabs and gossip.

Meantime Hilary, who has rubbed Molly's fur the right way, is listening silently to the running fire of comments that her companion gives her on the passers-by.

southern swells. They've a pretty cottage, she was one, depreciating the short and in love, wearing his heart out, all for une joune mariee! So, there's __"
"A skeleton in the southern closet, evi-

"A skeleton! My dear, you little know of whom you speak. Say, rather, a shadow on their hearth. She's fat, absolutely fat, with pendulous cheeks and a half-dozen comforta-ble looking chins. Fancy a man in love with such a creature-in warm weather, too!"

I've been expecting it; but I don't deserve it At all. I assure you I but give you facts.
You can't people Mt. Desert with fancies alone, can you?"

"But Molly, I never heard you gossip like this in Ruryes."

"In Europe, not but Bar Harbor is different. Gossip is one of its charming compo-nents—in place of sea-bathing You know it is too cold for sea-bathing, don't you! Or did you bring a pretty bathing-suit with you as your friend the skeleton in the closet did! ir me, what a joke that is! I must tell Dorothy Drake. I dare say poor Madame Fatty will know no other name this summer. By the way, here comes another celebrity, Mra Renshaw, and another cavalier. What is there so attractive in that woman? Albert, who is that with Mrs. Renshaw, now? She is very pretty," said Hilary, putting

up her glasses.
"Some musical or literary fellow, who can play on five instruments tolerably well and sing, or who knows how to lie equally well in six different languages; she has always a bevy of them about her; and this is one of I suppose," replied Albert, glancing hastily, then burying himself again in his absorbing paper.

"Is she a personage here?"
"Here! Yes. Every one knows her ami likes her, though such awful reports as these are current about her. She lived in town ten years before any one ever heard of her! She is hampered by the most disagreeable husband, who is a misanthrope and is troubled with a perpetual cold in his head. As a result, charming young men always pity her, and pity is akin—"
"Where are they all going?" asked Hilary,

heard of this amusement, however."

"In spite of two seasons of London," laughed Molly. "No, my dear; rocking is to Mt. Desert germane."

"It has nothing to do with a creehe, has it! It suggests charity and the care of poor babies."

Bar Harbor, or at least we call it by a dif-ferent name—Love. But you are right on one point. As for the poor baby Cupid, rocking is supposed to be his greatest pleas-

etter, and it is very easy to learn."

The people near by turned suddenly to a

three-quarters face. "Will you come, Molly?" asked Hilary.

you hear the surf again, and the little you near the surr again, and the fittle rippling laugh by your side? Does it make you smile—or sigh? Ah' me! Or are you an unfortunate outsider, and must it be put down for you in plain black and white that rocking means only a stroll on the coast, over cliffs, under trees, near the roaring ocean, a stroll taken in pairs—a man and s girl-a man and a girl, and no more.

usual accompaniments are an umbrella—big enough for two; a book—light enough for two; and voices—low enough for two. Although the days of mistletoe and mystic bridges are the days of mistletoe and mystic bridges are out of date, certain minor—more delicate—privileges are extended to a rocking pair. Swift smiles, slow glances, soft speech under the shade of the umbrella, are duties to the genuine rocker. They count for nothing. Dora rocks with Fred to day, with Tom tomorrow, and goes back to town heart-free in the fall. Tom and Fred are happy ushers at her wedding a year later or she may have forecuten their existence by that time.

forgotten their existence by that time.

Said Hilary after they had walked along past the Ocean house, Albert bowing constantly to girls on buckboards and girls in carts and girls under umbrellas: "Well, what is the difference between this and any other walk? Are we rocking now!"

"Not not!" "Not and any other to the cart's model."

"Not yet," replied Albert, gently. "We turn here." So they turned abruptly to the left—seaward—down a dusty piece of road, and then suddenly to the right again and wandered along close to the water's edge, skirting at once the pretty homes on one side, and the rocks on the other. Hilary stood

and the rocks on the other. Haary stood still and drew a long breath.

A light seemed to break on Hilary's mind, and she smiled off toward the waves and away from Albert. A betraying dimple, however, made him smile too, audibly.

"One can only go rocking in the right mood, don't you see?" asked he gently and a little fearfully.

little fearfully. Yes, Hilary did see, as gently as he, and

Yes, Hilary did see, as gently as he, and with her lashes down over her cheeks.

This was promising, and a half hour later they were in the full swim of the sport, sitting upon a big stone, Hilary holding Albert's stick, Albert holding Hilary's ambrella open behind him. Hilary poked with the end of the cane at the tiny pools of seawater left in the clefts, and pushed the barnacles clinging in these pools, or leaned the silver knob of the stick against her soft cheek as she looked off seawards and hummed. Albert stratehed off seawards and hummed. Albert stretches himself at her side, the umbrella between them—a big blue umbrella with a ball of lapis lazuli on the handle—and whistled with the humming. Now and again their eyes met. They were rocking, you see. They sang a little, and Hilary dabbled her

fingers in the pool, and wiped them on Al-bert's handkerchief, humming "Le Mouchoir Mauvais," as she did so. This started them and wrecks and desort islands, rather pretty sort of talk—you may remember it?—and Albert bet her gloves that his hair was lighter than hers. It was lighter than Dorothy Drake's, at any rate. Did she

know Dorothy Drake;
And Hilary confessed that four years in Europe, from 18 to 20, left one in doleful ignorance of American names, and he must tell her about the girls in society, from a wes her on the passers-by.
"You see that buckboard? Those are the charms of the long and lithe, of which of which style Dorothy was luitering, half yawning, the umbrella drooping low on Hilary's shoulder.

That evening they paddled up and down, and back and forth in Frenchman's bay, off towards Iron Bound island, to see where the professor and his flancee were shut up all night in a cave; or to watch for a stray seal, or perhaps scare away a live eagle from his rock, but generally hugging the shore, and having no end of a good time at first. Albert, Taylor, unhappily chewing his moustache that end of sorry comfort to a discontented man, passed them once or twice in a cance alone, rather closely. He was a well-built fellow, who at the games of the college boys on Rodick's lawn had made the running leap

of the season, and Hilary admired him. bothered Albert. Gradually everything bothered him. Al-though he had the girl of his choice and the full moon, things did not go well. Hilary was in the wrong frame of mind. He could scarcely believe she was the same girl of the and he caught her looking after Wildo Tay lor once with a strange expression of inquiry in her eyes. There was no doubt that Wildo managed a cance better than her own cavaller; there was also no doubt that Hilary knew it, and as Albert grew conscious that that he knew it, he became more and mor

Why must a girl only like a man when he is doing his very best? Life is not spent in paddling, and she could talk to him and enjoy the water and the moon and his eyes and forget the minor fact that another mar knew better than he how to manage a cance And then of course—but you are prepared for the catastrophe. You have had the same sort of catastrophe so many times, in so many stories don't you know? Suppose we only sketch it here, and leave it to your im-

agination, or memory, or what not, to fill ou A low bit of rocks that looked like a petr fled alligator had run out from the land for

pity her, and pity is akin—"
"Where are they all going?" asked Hilary, interrupting.
"To the boat—everybody goes once a day to the boat to see the new-comers—and then perhaps they go rocking, to a musical, or perhaps to make visits."

"What is rocking? I thought all the present American pleasures were direct importations from England. I have not heard of this amusement, however."

"What a mermaid!" thought Wildo Tay lor, as he paddled swiftly toward the spot. For Hilary had been sensible enough to shrow herself on her back, as she couldn't swim; so she floated. As for Albert, be could not swim either, clothed and out of his right mind as he was. He made most des-perate efforts. He clutched at his canoe, always for the purpose of getting toward Hilary and saving her. Alas! humanity i judged by appearances, deceitful though the may be. When a young man takes a girl ou "Will you do it now!" asked Albert, springing forward, "I should like nothing she is floating off on the tide, is fatal to him in the girl's eyes. By their futsty each like year Albert's salt, sea know them, and this was Albert's salt ser

fruit, verily. Of course Taylor saved them. And any "No, the boat for me, my dear. Ah, Mr. aylor. Hilary, let me present Mr. Taylor."

Hilary bowed, so did the tall knickerbockered young man. Then they separated, and Hilary and Albert went rocking.

Do you know how they did it? Are you an old Mt. Deserter yourself, and do you drop the paper at this point and smile as you remember your last excursion of this sort. Do

old moon lighting it all up. Not a bad study for a picture

An hour after, two hours after, Albert out of sight, out of mind; Hilary, dry, pale, in a heavy white dress, appears on the cottage veranda, over there on the Field, as it is

The crabbing party are not yet at home.
Aunt Lou has gone around, too, "for something fit to eat," so the bit of a house is more or less deserted. The girl, starts up as she sees a man pacing up and down on the little gullery.

"I beg your pardon, Miss Armstrong", says he, "but I thought I would wait until your friends come, as you wouldn't let me send for them, and you might be more used up than you realize, don't you know!"

"Oh, no, I'm all right, and we must keep

it quiet by all means, for Albert-Mr. Mar-Albert, in his room above, heard these

Albert, in his room above, heard these words, and you can fancy the war dance they produced in his heart.

"Are 'you all right, really!" continued the manly voice outside the window. It was a good voice, and Albert ground his teeth as he heard it.

"Oh, yes; I didn't mind a ducking, and we

were so near the shore that I wasn't afraid. Not that I could have reached it you know;

wait and see what plans the Martins may have made. I am most happily in the hands

See how frank I am. I want very much to know you, because you remind me of some one else. Your acquaintance is not often begged for upon such apparently uncomplimentary grounds, I dare verture."

eemed to Albert.
"I can hardly tell you; but a dream, "How romantic!" and Hilary folded her hands in her lap, and looked off. Alas! not seawards or skywards, but over toward Sproui's, where the buckboard men were having a pleasant squabble to cap off the

"Yes," Taylor answered caimly, "very romantic, and fortunately, though I belong to this scoffing century. I baliava in romance, and cling to it. I even go so far as to believe in this girl. I don't know just why I should confide to you that I am still living in hopes of meeting her again."

"Tell me about her," said Hillary, authoritativaly. "Why were you in indecision."

"That is a more surprising statement than

"They are selfish for those other selver the castle, when—it is really quite melo-dramatic—a horse came dashing down, toward us, and in the cart behind him an old woman terrified half out of her wita. I

"Of course, just as any man would have "Of course, just as any man would have done, when my mother cried out, 'My boy, risk your young life for that old wornout existence! Never! never! My mother will reason with St. Peter at the gate. She's from Boston, you know. A group of interested people stood by. There was a girl with them—a young girl, 16 or 17 possibly—tall and straight. She flashed a look into my face as she stood there. 'Go!' she said. My mother heard her, and turned in surprise. mother heard her, and turned in surprise. Well, I went. That is all there is of it, but the girl has never left my mind. And you remind me of her."

you were knocked down."
Wildo looked at her quickly.
you know I was knocked down!"

see? It sounds very much like a sentimental Sunday-school tale, but you have it for what

"I remember her tones and her eyes. Yes and I remember her hat."

"Do you! Oh, wasn't it a little beauty!" "What!" cried the man, starting again "You are too imaginative," laughed Hilary,

so sympathetic, and curious enough to be interested in—my prototype." "I don't know that it was very pretty,"

was a turban, white and brown, and had a big white bird laid flat on top of it. I was so young and sentimental that I wrote a sonnet to the girl the next week, while I was "Were you ill!" inquired Hilary hastily.
"Oh, the kick. The horse kicked me, don't

you know, in the leg. I suspect I was awk-ward about stopping him. I was in Strasbourg on my back for six weeks. It was there that I wrote the sonnet, and com-pared my young ideal with the dove that floated above her head on outstretched wings.

"So did the poor little pigeon," said Hilary

and the same girl," laughed Hilary, "I beg, because I should have to undeceive you in the interest of truth. I don't go about wav-ing flags and beating drums, I assure you."

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but it seemed friendly."
"Not a friendly bit of rocks along there by

"Not a friendly bit of rocks along there by any means. They are picturesque concerns, though there is a still better view of cliffs in the other direction. Some day—but perhaps you will never feel like paddling again."

"I shall never do anything again without a chaperone," replied the girl. "I never did before; they are such good, safe creatures." Then they laughed. Albert, above stairs, writhed and lighted his only comfort, his cigar.

"I am sorry for that," he heard Wildo Tay-lor reply; "but driving is different, possibly. I've a cart here, and if Miss Martin will go along in her tub, perhaps you wouldn't mind an excursion to-morrow!"

"You are very kind, Mr. Taylor. We must

of my friends."
"You cannot baffle me, Miss Armstrong.

"Of whom do I remind you?" asked Hilary, a certain thrill of triumph in her voice, as it vision came across my sight once when I was in-indecision, and then she vanished."

the others. Mother and unse interchangeable words." their children; but to my brief narrative which is really the slightest structure upon which to found a romance. My mother and I were walking the hill in Heidelberg toward

started toward her, you know."
"Yes, I know," interjected Hilary in so low
a tone that he did not hear.

"But were you hurt?" asked Hilary, "when

"Pardon me, it was a question."

"Pardon me, it was a question."

"Ves, I was hurt and carried home; but then I had been ready to play the coward, and this young unknown soul had waved the flag and beaten the drum for me, don't you

it is worth—and you remind me of the girl."
"I should think you would remember all about her," said Hilary with a touch of re-

waving him back to his chair by a wand-like motion of her white fore-finger, "It must have been very pretty or very ugly for you to have remembered it all this time. Three years, you said! And I am a feminine, and

said Wildo, his head entirely on one side.

"Don't make game of me, Miss Armstrong. The sonnet perished long ago." "I suppose."

"Are you trying to make me think-what are you trying to make me think, Miss Armstrong!" And the man must have jumped up, for Albert heard a chair fall on the

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